

4 June 8.

Task From GAIL

what have we previously
Agreed to?

Martin + Tom - you
Guys are working this, Right?

UNCLASSIFIED

31 MAY 1984

ODP-84-811

DCI/ICS 84-4016
30 May 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Data Processing

FROM: Chairman, Information Handling Committee

SUBJECT: RECON GUARD Testing

Gail

1. Per our telephone conversation of 23 May I want to reconfirm the IHC's support for a test of RECON GUARD connected to COINS Host Access System (HAS) equipment and the COINS network. We believe that such testing is important for planning future security provisions to be used with the Community Information Retrieval System (CIRS).

2. Provisions for this testing are well documented in your memorandum to the DDS&T, dated 14 April 1983; the Memorandum of Understanding signed by you, [redacted] dated 3 June 1983; and the RECON GUARD Status Report (Phases 9 and 10) prepared by [redacted] dated 4 May 1984.

STAT
STAT

3. When the IHC supported undertaking the RECON GUARD project it anticipated that the technology might allow a limited subset of COINS users outside of CIA to access the RECON data base. I understand that any final decision on implementing such a capability must await both a final evaluation of an operational test of the RECON GUARD and the outcome of the CIA's present review of its information sharing policy. Any operational deployment of the GUARD system for this purpose might also require some further development of the GUARD device. Nevertheless, I believe that it would be premature to remove the GUARD equipment or the COINS HAS until evaluation of the project is complete and due consideration has been given to providing a limited degree of access to RECON through COINS.

*not possible
to do with
"prototype"
equipment.*

4. I am pleased to hear that testing of the RECON GUARD equipment appears to be progressing successfully. The technology may provide a solution to one of the Intelligence Community's most difficult data handling problems (i.e., data base security). If I can be of any further assistance, please call.

STAT

cc: [redacted]

STAT

UNCLASSIFIED

RECON GUARD

The prototype GUARD has been tested as far as it can be. The design, with a simulated HAS, has been system tested and queries designed by OCR have been input by the contractor and ~~compared~~ the results have been compared with similar queries run by OCR against the regular data base. The structure of the GUARD makes it difficult to operate (query) except by a technician. In addition, the machinery has been dismantled.

Within the constraints of the limited test capabilities of the prototype, all parties (ORD, ODP, OCR and ISSG) agree that GUARD did what it was supposed to, viz., prevent unauthorized release of document citations.

Based on the prototype testing, it may be assumed that an operational model of GUARD would also be secure. Experience with previous systems, however, suggests that this assumption can be proven ^{only} by operationally testing.

Before CIA makes a decision to fund the production of GUARD, certain decisions must be made:

- should CIA ^dunertake such an effort (or turn it over to the IC)
- if CIA funds (or sponsors) what ^Adata base does it have in mind?
(what exists other than RECON?)

-if RECON is to be used what are ~~implications~~ ^{benefits}

- the benefits to the IC
- the value of those benefits vs the cost to CIA (OCR, ODP, etc.)
- the implications for CIA (demand for improved RECON
--re release of ORCON citations--and demand for other data bases)

- implementation *being a Direct to USER*